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Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Global health and foreign policy

Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/72/L.40

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 6 of draft resolution A/72/L.40, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide that the one-day high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis convened by the President of the General Assembly should be held in New York on the second day of the general debate of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., consisting of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion, two multi-stakeholder panels and a brief closing segment;

(b) Decide that:

(i) The opening segment, to be held from 10.30 to 11.30 a.m., would feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, the Secretary-General, the Director General of the World Health Organization, the Chair of the Stop TB Partnership and the Chair of the first World Health Organization Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Tuberculosis in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response, as well as an eminent high-level champion of the fight against tuberculosis and a person affected by tuberculosis, both selected, in consultation with Member States, by the President of the General Assembly, giving due consideration to gender equity;

(ii) The plenary segment, to be held from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5.30 p.m., would comprise statements by Member States and observers of the

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General Assembly; a list of speakers would be established in accordance with established practices of the Assembly, and the time limits for those statements would be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States;

(c) Decide that the organizational arrangements for the two multi-stakeholder panels would be as follows:

(i) Two consecutive multi-stakeholder panels would be held in parallel to the plenary, one from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the other from 3 to 4.30 p.m.;

(ii) The multi-stakeholder panels would address the following themes:

Panel 1: Accelerating comprehensive response through access to affordable prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care to end the tuberculosis epidemic, including multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis, taking into consideration co-morbidities and the linkages to relevant health challenges on each country's path towards achieving universal health coverage, taking note of and building on the efforts concerning an accountability framework to drive multisectoral action, as envisaged in the Moscow ministerial declaration;

Panel 2: Scaling up sufficient and sustainable national and international financing and implementation for service delivery, innovation and research and development to identify new diagnostics, drugs, vaccines and other prevention strategies;

(iii) Each of the two multi-stakeholder panels would be co-chaired by two representatives, one from a high-tuberculosis-burden country and one from a low-tuberculosis-burden country with successful tuberculosis control programmes, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly from among the Heads of State or Government attending the high-level meeting, in consultation with the regional groups;

(d) Decide that the high-level meeting shall approve a concise and action-oriented political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations, to be submitted by the President of the General Assembly for adoption by the Assembly.

II. Relationship of the proposed requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 and to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

2. The requested activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and programme 24, Public information, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 (see A/71/6/Rev.1).

3. They also relate to section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and section 28, Public information, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/72/6 (Sect. 2) and A/72/6 (Sect. 28), respectively).

III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. Pursuant to operative paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of the draft resolution, the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis would be held on the second day of the general debate (i.e., as it currently stands, on 26 September 2018). The high-level

meeting would consist of an opening segment, a plenary segment, two multi-stakeholder panels and a brief closing segment. The opening segment would be held from 10.30 to 11.30 a.m., followed by a plenary segment from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5.30 p.m.; two consecutive multi-stakeholder panels would be held in parallel to the plenary segment, one from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the other from 3 to 4.30 p.m., and the brief closing segment would be held from 5.30 to 6 p.m. Accordingly, the opening segment, the plenary segment, the two multi-stakeholder panels and the brief closing segment would require four meetings (two in the morning and two in the afternoon) on 26 September 2018. The aforementioned four meetings would require interpretation in all six official languages and would constitute an addition to the meetings workload for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management in 2018. This would entail additional resource requirements for meeting services in the amount of $23,800 in 2018.

5. Furthermore, the request for documentation contained in operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution would constitute an addition to the documentation workload for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one in-session document (8,500 words), to be issued in all six official languages. This would entail additional resource requirements for documentation services in 2018 in the amount of $26,000.

6. In addition, on the basis of experience with other meetings of a similar nature, resource requirements have been included for meetings and media coverage and for audiovisual services. To that end, the Department of Public Information would be responsible for covering the meetings of and issuing press releases on the high-level meeting in English and French, captioning photos and providing media coverage and news broadcasts ($9,900).

IV. Financial implications of the proposals

7. To implement the requests contained in operative paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 6 of the draft resolution, additional one-time requirements in the amount of $59,700 would arise in 2018 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and section 28, Public information, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019. The details of those additional requirements are provided in the table below.

Resource requirements for 2018

(United States dollars)

Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	
Simultaneous interpretation	23 800
In-session documentation	26 000
Total, section 2	**49 800**
Section 28, Public information	
Other staff costs	9 900
Total, section 28	**9 900**
Total	**59 700**

V. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2018–2019

8. No provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the implementation of the activities requested under operative paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 6 of the draft resolution. It is not possible at present to identify activities within the sections of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 concerned that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that resources in the amount of $59,700 be provided on a one-time basis through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019.

VI. Contingency fund

9. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VII. Conclusion and action requested of the General Assembly

10. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/72/L.40, additional resource requirements in the amount of $59,700, comprising $49,800 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and $9,900 under section 28, Public information, would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019. The amount of $59,700 would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019, to be approved by the Assembly, and as such would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**